

INEXPENSIVE, YET PRICELESS

By Ed Reiter

LONG BRANCH — Michael Wyatt is something of a modern alchemist. He can't produce gold from lead, but he does have a technique for making rare coins from photographs, cardboard and glue.

His secret ingredient is a powerful elixir called imagination.

Wyatt, a 23-year-old graduate of Long Branch High School who works at a local 7-Eleven store, began collecting coins at the age of 12 but found he couldn't afford them. Unperturbed, he came up with the notion of making what he calls "fake coins" instead. He cut out photos of coins from books and magazines, pasted them on cardboard, then cut them out again — ending up with cardboard discs that are coin-like in shape and size if not in content.

His collection has been growing ever since and now encompasses thousands of these discs — among them cardboard copies of the rarest United States coins ever minted. These include not one...not two...but three examples of the Brasher doubloon, a

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BIG MONEY — Michael Wyatt, 23, of Long Branch displays a \$100,000 bill and two \$50 gold pieces from his collection of "fake" coins and currency.

MARKET MOOD CHANGING

By Elmer L. Curran
Editor, NJNJ

THIS YEAR looks like a good one for the hobby. New coins and the possibility of varieties and errors should give the hobby a much needed boost.

The new Lincoln cent is well into production with the first copper-plated zinc pieces appearing on the East Coast.

The coin, conceived when hoarding and high copper prices were giving the mint fits, is designed to discourage anyone — coin enthusiasts or metal fanciers — from taking thousands of the pieces out of circulation.

It would have to be a really sick metal fancier who stashes away zinc.

With the coin having no distinguishing mint marks, even collectors should have a tough time finding a reason for keeping the new cents in quantity.

The change over from copper to zinc composition will not be an abrupt one, but rather spread out through 1982.

The first new cents are coming out of the West Point Bullion Depository in West Point, N.Y.

They will be followed by cents from the San Francisco Assay office and then the Denver and Philadelphia mints in October, when the changover is expected to have been completed.

NONE OF THE facilities is expected to produce both the older copper and new zinc cents simultaneously.

Aggregate cent production will continue to run about 1.1 billion a month.

Although some opponents of the zinc cent, particularly those from the copper industry, predict the new coin will not wear well, officials feel the visual appearance of the coins will be slight or even unnoticeable.

The new zinc cent will be 97.6 percent zinc, 2.4 percent copper as compared with 95 percent copper and 5 percent zinc of the older coin, and weigh about 19% less than the 3.11 grams of the piece that's being phased out.

While the design of the coin is not being changed, collectors will want to keep an eye out for possible varieties and errors popping up as the new coin comes

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Curtain Call Nears For '82 Show

**By James K. Brandt
President, GSNA**

I am happy to report that plans are well under way for our 7th Annual Convention to be held June 24-27 in Cherry Hill. The host club for this year's convention will be the New Jersey Exnumia Society. Founded only two years ago, it is already 140 members strong.

Stephen R. Taylor, General Show Chairman, anticipates being able to expand the 110 dealer bourse area to accommodate additional dealers. He has also invited the U.S. Mint and several foreign mints to participate at this year's convention.

Kurt Kreuger will again conduct the GSNA Convention Auction.

Among collector organizations meeting during the convention will be PAK Jefferson Nickel Club and the Early American Copper (EAC) collectors.

Doug Moore, Exhibit Chairman, hopes to top the 85 cases of numismatic material and exnumia displayed last year. Doug suggests that you start preparing your exhibit now.

A popular feature with the young collectors last year, the YN pro-

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GSNA Sponsors Workshop

YOUR GARDEN STATE Numismatic Association is sponsoring two events as part of its ongoing program to bolster the hobby and member clubs.

James K. Brandt, GSNA president, reports that a day-long workshop will be held April 18, the first day of Coin Week, at the Landmark Inn, Woodbridge Township, to help clubs solve problems and add interest to meetings.

In the second event, Stephen R. Taylor, GSNA first vice president and Young Numismatist chairman, announced the GSNA is offering a scholarship to a deserving young numismatist. He or she will spend an all-expenses-paid week at the American Numismatic Association's headquarters at Colorado Springs, Colo., attending that group's annual summer seminar which begins Aug. 1.

Brandt said the workshop will consist of six discussion groups, consisting of a leader and eight participants, groups will rotate during the day.

GROUP LEADERS and topics are:

Ed Smith, publicity and communications; Archie Black, developing programs and planning meetings; Jerry Zara, exhibits and financial management; Paul Pfeil, membership recruitment; Brandt, leadership, and Taylor, young

numismatists.

Invitational letters have been mailed to appropriate local club officers. Replies must be received by March 30.

Taylor said the free trip is open to all young numismatists who are members of GSNA or are a current member of a GSNA club.

Candidates must be between the ages of 13 and 18 as of April 1, 1982. A panel of judges has been selected to choose a winner based on activities and accomplishments to numismatics, with some consideration given to activities in school and the community.

The scholarship will include round trip airfare from Philadelphia, tuition, lodging, meals and a special field trip. It will also, of course, provide an excellent opportunity to see ANA's operations and museum.

The deadline for entries is May 1.

Applications and additional information are available from Taylor, 70 West View Ave., Dover, Delaware 19901.

LESLIE A. WINNERS, of Pineville, Louisiana, chairman of National Coin Week 1982, reports that the theme for this year is "Numismatics -- A High Road to Adventure."

In announcing the theme, Win-

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CURTAIN CALL from page 1

gram is again being offered.

The YN Chairman will be Larry Gentile Sr. of New Rochelle, New York. Known throughout the East for his work with young collectors, Larry will be directing the daylong activities which will include adult and junior guest speakers, a numismatic quiz, a special program contest and lots of door prizes.

There also will be a mystery YN auction.

Another outstanding educational forum is scheduled for Saturday afternoon following the YN activities. A special wooden flat, a second in a series, will be given only to those attending the forum. All the remaining flats will be destroyed at the conclusion of the forum in the presence of those in attendance.

If last year's standing-room-only forum is any indication of the collector/investor interest, you'd better plan to get there early to get a seat.

Finally, following past convention tradition, a bus trip to Atlantic City is planned for Friday evening for those adventurous collectors and dealers hoping Lady Luck is on their side.

In conjunction with the annual convention, GSNA is again sponsoring a photo contest. Details are printed elsewhere in this issue of the NJNJ. I am sure some of you received a camera as a Christmas present. What better time is there than the present for taking pictures of coins, paper money or even candid shots at your local coin club or show?

You don't have to be a professional photographer to take a winning picture. So let's get out there and snap away.

— * —
In reviewing the proofs of the 1982 GSNA calendar, I was surprised to see some clubs no longer listed. I am sure it was just an oversight on the clubs' part in not paying their dues. The publicity each club receives by being listed in the NJNJ club news, the club calendar, the club roster and the annual calendar far exceeds the modest \$10.00 dues' cost. If your club is no longer listed, ask one of your officers to send the dues to our Secretary, Ed Smith.



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NEW OFFICERS — Bergen County Coin Club's officers for 1982 are (from left) Alvin Gunther, treasurer; Faye Stefanacci, secretary; Julio Perez III, vice president; Lester A. Ninzey, president. Gilbert Hall, past president, greets and installs the new officers.

MARKET MOOD CHANGING

Continued from page 1

into being. Varities and errors are always possible even with long-run coins, but the chances are heightened whenever there's new production.

Weight will be a good guide as to whether you have an older copper or a new zinc one.

THE NEW zinc cent will give hobbyists plenty to talk about in the days ahead, but so will a special commemorative half dollar, honoring the 250th anniversary of the birth of George Washington.

The .900 fine silver coin will attract attention not only because it would be the first true commemorative struck in many years, but also because it will be designed by Elizabeth Jones.

Miss Jones, who has strong ties to the Garden State via her parents living in Chatham, arrives on the scene with very impressive sculpturing and medallion credentials.

She's faced with the delightful challenge of designing a commemorative as her very first challenge as the nation's new chief engraver.

Congress gave the nod to the new coin just before the lawmakers went on holiday recess and President Reagan has since signed the authorization bill.

If all goes well, production is scheduled to take place later this year, continue into 1983, with all coins bearing the date 1982.

Pegged to the price of silver, production costs and an add-on factor designed to help reduce the national debt, the actual price of the coin remains to be seen.

Some figure it will be about \$8.50 to \$10.

Like the new cent, the silver commemorative was first proposed when the metals markets were strong. The price of silver has dropped considerably since then.

LURKING BEHIND the cent and Washington com-

memorative pieces is a proposal for a 25-coin set to commemorate the 1984 Los Angeles Olympic games.

The set idea passed the Senate just before the holiday recess, but is reported to face strong opposition in the House.

One of the move's major opponents is Rep. Frank Annunzio, D-Ill., chairman of the House coinage subcommittee.

Annunzio was the prime mover behind the Washington commemorative.

One of the problems with the Olympic idea appears to be uncertainty as to who would really profit from the set's sale, how that sale would be controlled and what the final price would be pegged to.

In addition to being apparently fearful that the mudding of political waters with the Olympic coins would hurt the Washington idea, Annunzio also sees the Olympic set as coming at the wrong time from the production standpoint.

Mint Director, Donna M. Pope most likely shares that feeling.

In addition to the Mint working under enormous pressures just to get coinage produced for true commercial needs, the agency, operating under President Reagan's cost-cutting emphasis, also is being asked to see where staff and operational budgets can be cut.

The set also would have to be designed, packaged and marketed.

The hobby gave Pope a warm welcome at the American Numismatic Association's annual convention in New Orleans last year. Let's hope over-enthusiasm for new coins doesn't make an enemy out of a friend.

There could be wooden nickels -- with lots of splinters -- in the future.



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DEALERS LOOK TO FUTURE

THE CURRENT strong buyers' market could be ending by mid-1982 or a little later.

That was the opinion voiced by dealers in a survey on how the coin market looks from their point of view.

Without exception, the dealers feel the collector is back, seeking out the coins that moved away from him in price when the investor came rushing into the market with what at times seemed like endless greenbacks.

Much depends, of course, on what happens to the national economy in the days ahead, but the feeling is one of optimism following a prolonged dry period.

A number of the dealers see prices bottoming out and suggest that collectors do their shopping now.

DAVE WILSON of Dave's Coins, Jackson Township, sees three factors working in the market.

- Recession fears that prompt everyone to hold back on spending, keeping as much cash as possible.
- Comparatively high rates of return from such things as savings certificates and money market funds.

- The recently enacted law that keeps collectibles from being put into tax put-off Keogh and IRA pension accounts.

Wilson said there was a holiday period gain in the sale of coins. But he, like other dealers, has a "gut feeling" that things won't really pick up until the second half of this year when, he hopes, the country will be coming out of its recession.

Asked in what special areas collectors should look for buys, Wilson suggested \$1 gold pieces at current levels. He said that a Very Fine piece that was going for \$175 not too long ago can now be found for \$135.

He said choice Morgan dollars have maintained a steady upward pattern as have circulated type coins, such as 2-cent 3-cent silver and 20-cent pieces.

JULES E. TOPFER of the Monmouth Stamp and Coin Shop, Red

Bank, said the collector is "back in the hobby in force" and a lot of choice material reappeared in the market when investors abandoned coins for the "newest game in town" namely high interest bearing financial instruments.

Topfer said he's encouraged by the strong return of foreign and ancient coin collectors, which he feels is a sure sign that other areas will follow.

Topfer agreed with Wilson that should interest rates come down to around 10 percent, rather than 12, 14 and higher, coins will once again look attractive to the investor.

Jack Barnes of the Ocean County Coin & Stamp Shop, Point Pleasant, feels that the true collector never really leaves the market, but that he has the opportunity to make some exceptional buys at this time.

BARNES SAID opportunity knocks because of recession fears and the fact that some of the bigger dealers got caught short some months ago when they bought heavily during the boom coin and bullion market, only to see prices collapse. "Some even borrowed from banks and that money had to be repaid regardless of the market," he said.

Those pressures have brought rarer and better grade coins back into the market as some dealers, and even some high-flying investors, sell off inventories for badly needed cash.

GSNA Sponsors Workshop

Continued from page 4

ners noted that every token or piece of paper currency has a story to tell and an adventure to experience.

In inviting others to join the hobby, ANA notes:

"When a Lincoln cent is spent, can the story of the rail-splitter, country lawyer and President be forgotten?...The Kennedy half dollar, born of a national tragedy, reminds us of the spirit of adventure he possessed when he said that 'the torch has been passed to

"Thanks to that situation," Barnes said, "the hobby is back to more honest prices."

DON TARRANT of Zodiac Coins and Stamps, Belmar, finds that with the flight of some investors from the market and other factors, coin prices "have declined to pre-1980 levels."

Tarrant said evidence of weakness in the market — a plus for buyers — is that some better grade and rarer coins, say those worthy \$200 and more, are going for half the Gray Sheet listings.

Tarrant said some investors are simply holding back from making further purchases. He adds that he was astonished when others actually dumped expensively bought coins when the market turned sour rather than waiting for a return to better days.

That dumping and the need for cash has returned a number of high-type coins to the market.

Tom Toman of Colonial Coins and Stamps, Wall Township, said he's happy to see a return to a "concrete, firm market" after the frantic days of precious metal buying and selling.

"The plunge in prices," Toman said, "pushed a lot of overnight bullion dealers out of the coin market, (people) who didn't belong there in the first place."

Toman sees buying opportunities in gold coins, when available, and early silver proof sets, which went down with the price of silver.

a new generation of Americans."

The diversity of backgrounds that the hobby attracts is reflected in the National Coin Week committee.

Its chairman is an NCR software systems engineer. Others include a professor of education at Nova Scotia State Teachers College and a botany professor at the University of California at Los Angeles.

The Ocean County Coin Club was the only state club to receive national recognition for its Coin Week activities.

SOTHEBY'S AUCTION

THE UNUSUAL always attracts attention. And this summer the curtain will be going up on one of the most fascinating stories in numismatics as Sotheby's offers for sale rare foreign and U.S. coins from the Virgil M. Brand Collection.

Estimated to realize more than \$10 million, the thousands of coins will be sold in major auctions in Switzerland, London and New York. The first of the sales will take place July 1 at the Hotel Baur au Lac in Zurich, Switzerland.

Sotheby's reports that the coins have remained untouched and unviewed for more than forty years, stored away for much of the time by the family in bank vaults in New York. They are being offered for sale by the Estate of Jane Brand Allen, a niece of Virgil M. Brand.

Of the sale, John L. Marlon, president of Sotheby's in North America, says:

"Virgil M. Brand was one of the three leading coin collectors in America along with John W. Garrett and Col. E.H.R. Green.

"Over a period of 50 years, he assembled a comprehensive collection which spanned virtually every coin collecting area from ancient Greek and Roman to European, Asiatic and American. His collection was at one time the largest such private collection in the world, and probably second only to the British Museum.

"A number of coins which we will be offering in the upcoming series have never appeared on the auction block before. Additionally there are many coins whose type has not been seen on the market for decades."

WHAT DO WE know about Virgil M. Brand?

He lived from 1862 to 1926.

His German-born father, Michael Brand, was originally a partner in what became Anheuser-Busch brewery.

Virgil eventually formed his own business, the Brand Brewery, in Chicago in the late 1880s, and that successful enterprise gave him the means to amass some \$3 million in

coins during the last 35 years of his life. Large sums also were spent on stamps, stamp and coin books and objets d'art.

Of added interest, Brand, a bachelor, not only kept it all in his seven room apartment, but, by methodical bookkeeping, could put his hands on any particular piece without ado.

Virgil died in 1926, leaving no will, and his two remaining brothers, Horace L. and Armin William Brand, both businessmen, became the sole and equal heirs of Virgil's estate. When an attempt to sell the coin collection for \$5 million failed, the collection was then evenly divided between the two Brand brothers.

In time, it was thought that the entire collection had passed out of the family's hand, but, as so often happens in the hobby, a surprise was waiting for a later day.

That surprise surfaced when it was learned that Armin William Brand left a major part of his coin inheritance to his only daughter, Jane Brand Allen, who kept them intact for sentimental reasons.

In 1946, Mrs. Allen not only had the coins placed in three separate bank vaults, but had them stored exactly as Virgil had arranged them in their cigar boxes, which, in turn, were put into tin suitcases and then into crates whenever transferred.

The coins remained in the vaults for more than three decades until the executors of Mrs. Allen's estate, the Morgan Guaranty Trust Co., reassembled the collection in New York City for appraisal and subsequent cataloging.

MUCH OF what Sotheby's seems to be offering leans toward the classic, but Americana will be well represented, too. Some of those pieces will include \$5 gold pieces including 1819 and 1829 large date; Rosa Americana patterns and two Higley coppers; an 1849 Cincinnati Mining and Trading Company eagle; and 1849 Pacific Company eagle, and a George Washington engraved Indian Peace medal.

Also coming up is a Roman gold medallion of Galerius from the Aras Horde, one of the first of this type to appear on the market in 20 years; a Greek Dodekadrachm of Berenike, and an English pattern crown of Charles II struck in gold.

Selections of coins from the collection will be exhibited in London, Amsterdam, Zurich, New York and Los Angeles. Dates and catalogues will be made available at a later date through Sotheby's.

MEANWHILE stories which are surfacing in the numismatic press about Virgil M. Brand as auction details come to light raise a many questions about the collector as the answer, at least from a numismatic standpoint.

Some depict him as a loner who methodically went about pursuing his love for coins.

Others present him as a civic leader and even a socially active collector in numismatic clubs and associations.

It's also mentioned that once he wanted a coin, no amount of money was to high, even to the point of buying full, expensive collections to acquire one particular coin.

Also, we're told that Brand studied every coin and that he couldn't comprehend why anyone would buy a coin without wanting to know about it. But, it's hard to believe that he practiced what he preached if he gathered thousands of pieces, and still had time to run a business. Unlike Garrett, apparently a much more disciplined collector, Brand seems to have lost sight of what he was trying to do. The diversity of his collection could be a reason why the auction will be held abroad as well as in the United States, giving it a wider possible market.

**HELPED
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LATELY?**



COIN WEEK HONORS — Elmer L. Curran (left), NJNJ editor, presents very attractive certificate from American Numismatic Association to Mike Valosin, president of the Ocean County Coin Club. Award was in recognition of club's Coin Week activities last year. Ocean was only club in state so honored. Inset shows this year's Coin Week logo.

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coin that brought a world-record price of \$725,000 at a public auction sale in 1979.

If real, his "coins" would be worth many millions of dollars.

"I'd be the richest cat in the country," he exclaims. "I'd never have to work again; I'd own the White House."

They have no intrinsic value of course — but even so, they've given young Wyatt a wealth of satisfaction and fun, and helped him acquire a treasure trove of knowledge. He now knows more about coins, in fact, than most collectors who buy, sell and save the real thing — for unlike people who merely invest their money, he invests his time, spending hours each week not only cutting and pasting but reading and learning as well.

"I've learned a great deal by doing this," he remarks. "I can look at almost any coin from 1800 on and tell what country it's from — and I've found there's a lot of history behind each one. Collecting coins is almost like having a time machine; you can look at them and just imagine what the conditions were at the time they were made."

The bulk of his "fake coin" collection consists of U.S. pieces, rather than foreign ones — and he's partial particular to gold. He's trying to assemble a complete date-and-mint set of gold-on-cardboard U.S. coins: at least one example of each denomination from every year it was made and every mint that produces it. When finished, that set will include hundreds of different discs — and, as of now, it's only seven pieces from completion.

It takes him about two minutes to "mint" each cardboard coin.

"I just cut out the picture, get the glue, slap it on and spread it all around then put the picture on a piece of cardboard," he explains. "When the glue is dry, I cut out the coin. Then, if I have a picture of the other side of the coin, I slap some glue on that and paste it on the back."

Whenever possible, he uses full-color photographs so his gold coin discs have a proper yellow hue. But black-and-white photos work, too; with those, he simply adds the needed golden tone with a yellow marking



SO RARE — Three of the greatest "rarities" in Michael Wyatt's collection of "fake coins" are, from left, the 1804 silver dollar, the Brasher doubloon and the 1907 Indian Head double eagle or \$20 gold piece. If real, these three pieces alone would be worth a total of about \$1.5 million. Wyatt has several thousands pieces, in all.



THE 'MINTING' PROCESS — Photographs furnish the raw material for Michael Wyatt's unique "fake coins." He cuts out the photos, pastes them on cardboard, then cuts them out again, thereby creating coin-like discs.

pencil.

Each of the coin discs is housed in a 2-by-2 inch cardboard holder, and each holder is coded so Wyatt can tell at a glance just where he obtained the photograph — from a newspaper, magazine, auction catalog, book or whatever. The holders in turn, are stored in vinyl sheets in five large looseleaf notebooks.

Wyatt even has a name for his collection. He calls it "The Star Collection," explaining that he wanted a name that was distinctive and "Wyatt Collection didn't sound special enough." After it's finished, he hopes to get it cataloged by a major coin dealership. Then, he plans to donate it to the Smithsonian Institution in Washington.

"I don't think anybody else in the country has anything like this," he declares. "It's something completely unique."

Wyatt's financial status is somewhat better now than it was at the age of 12. Even so, he doesn't have much money to spend on coins — and even if he did, he isn't sure he'd spend it on real ones, for the "fake" kind have shown him that coins...as he puts it..."are more than just money."

"When I look at a coin now, I don't say it's a dollar," he remarks. "I say it's a work of art — partly because it's old and partly because it's beautiful. You can't spend these fake coins, but you can look at them and admire them the same as real coins."

And though they may be worthless in the eyes of other beholders, they're pearls of great price to their clever young creator.

"The knowledge and satisfaction I get from doing this are priceless," he declares. "I couldn't put a value on that."

— Ed Reiter, coin columnist for the New York Times, is a GSNA life member and former editor of the *NJNJ*.

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CLUB NEWS

(Editors Note: The following first appeared in Numismatic Scrapbook magazine, now part of Coin World, in 1972. (It was true then and is true now.)

IT MAKES IT HARDER TO SAY YES NEXT TIME

It has been no secret that the sparkplugs of many a coin organization have been a dedicated few. With only a few changes in title, year after year these few plan ahead, open, greet visitors and close up - even sweep up. They are called upon to speak at their club; at area clubs; even across the state and the nation.

Many times the inviting club greets the speaker with a handshake, presents him a certificate of appreciation and sends him off. Sometimes they favor him with a coin book, a coin, a special medal or plaque, or useful numismatic accessory as a token of appreciation. There is, after all, time and distance invested on the speaker's part.

More and more, we are told, clubs are "overlooking" their manners. Speakers drive long distances to speak - but perhaps were not notified of the recent change of location of the meeting. The certificate of appreciation is not there, and no remembrance is offered. Often club members - even officers - mutter under their breaths. "Let's get the program over with and on with the auction!"

Many of these dedicated speakers travel at their own expense; leave their jobs early and their families alone to accommodate the club. There might be overnight stays involved, extra meals or plane tickets.

Some speakers' good nature is beginning to wear thin, we hear. One popular speaker told us recently, "It makes it hard to say yes next time" when discourtesies and lack of appreciation are heaped upon them.

What is a visiting speaker worth to your organization? A special book inscribed with the names of the members present at the

meeting at which he spoke? A suitable plaque or medal inscribed to recall the occasion, or a coin in the speaker's personal interest field?

There is an old-fashioned way club officers can show the club's appreciation to its next speaker. For lack of other suitable gift, figure the distance your speaker will drive round trip, multiply that by 10 cents and offer him - old fashioned cash. He may turn it down, but he'll not forget that an offer was made. Then, it won't make it hard for him to say yes next time.

NEW JERSEY EXONUMIA SOCIETY

The annual meeting of the New Jersey Exonumia Society will be at 2:30 Saturday, June 26. The NJES is the host club for this year's Garden State Numismatic Convention. This year's convention should be another bell-ringer. Any individual wishing information concerning program advertising should contact Jerry Zara at P.O. Box 248, Brick Town, N.J. 08723. A \$2.00 fee has been set for placing a name on the patron's list.

At an officer's meeting on January 10th, William Bernstein took over the club's corresponding secretary position from Dennis Tilghman, Dennis, who has served the club diligently since its inception, will be devoting his time to studies at Mercer County College. Future correspondence should be addressed to Bill at 18 Riverside Drive - South, Brick Town, N.J. 08723.

KENT COIN CLUB

Jerry Zara, a GSNA listed guest speaker, recently gave a slide-illustrated talk on "Prison Money."

We appreciate his traveling a long way to be with us.

Now in its eleventh year, the club's new officers are:

President, Steve Taylor; First Vice President, Tony Dec; Second Vice President, Eleanor Reynolds; Treasurer, Terry Bryan; Recording Secretary, Phil Rynders; Corresponding Secretary, Doug Moore; Sergeant-at-Arms, Cary

Williams; Senior Board Member, Tom Reynolds; Junior Board Member, Mary Dec and Junior Board Member, Andrew Bryan.

President Taylor took office with the understanding that he would be fully supported by members' acceptance of committee assignments.

PAK JEFFERSON NICKEL CLUB

The year 1982 is another very important one in PAK's annals, with new innovations, such as: Coin Photography, additional research, auction data of all previous PAK auctions, Visit to the Mint, and much more.

Our recent visit to Sewickly, PA., "CLASS OF CHAMPIONS" was a richly rewarding unforgettable experience, and we truly feel that an impact into the minds of youngsters was made, and they too feel very deeply that the hobby of numismatics is a worthy one.

A special salute should go to the teacher Mimi Bizic, who made it all possible.

We also would like to thank the many fine people we met at the F.U.N. convention in Orlando, Florida; and a special thanks to Dr. Ken Embler and Randy Campbell for their cordial hospitality.

And, congratulations to the winner of the 1981 "PAK" Essay competition for YN's ages 11-17.

The Title of the competition was "WHAT THE QUALITY OF A COIN MEANS TO ME."

The winner of the 1981 "PAK" SCHOLARSHIP AWARD, named in honor of Felix Oscar Schlag, the designer of the Jefferson Five Cent Coin, was Joseph Hudson, age 16. He's a member of ANA and PAK.

NEW EGYPT COIN CLUB

The New Egypt Coin Club recently held elections for its officers for 1982. The following members were elected to a one-year term - Garry Sprung, President; Douglas Tilghman, Vice President; Carol Loggie, Secretary and Frank Chandler, Treasurer. The club also held its annual Christmas party on Dec. 17. There was a very good turnout with many

Continued on page 14

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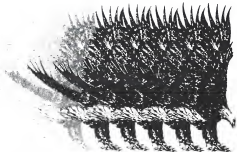
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CLUB NEWS

Continued from page 12

friends and family present.

The club is already planning its 5th annual show to be held at the American Legion Post on Meadowbrook Lane in New Egypt, NJ on Sept. 26, 1982. The New Egypt Coin Club meets on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. at the Plumsted Township Recreation Building on Brindletown Road in New Egypt.

NORTHERN VALLEY COIN CLUB

Special awards were presented to two club members at the 15th anniversary dinner of the Northern Valley Coin Club, Demarest, N.J.

John Izzo, club sergeant at arms, received an engraved pewter stein for his participation in the club over the past several years.

Joseph Kennedy was presented the Edward J. Black Award, given to the club member judged to have contributed most to the club and the field of numismatics in general. Kennedy has served as president of the club.

Officers for 1982 have been elected by the Northern Valley Coin Club of Demarest, N.J. as follows: Joseph Pecorino, president; Joan Kennedy, first vice-president; C. Edwin Aldrich, second vice-president; Critten Drakontites, treasurer; Josephine Stiehler, recording secretary; Barbara Izzo, corresponding secretary; Thomas Mulligan and Adrian Nader, board members 1982-84; Harold DeNier, Louis Stein and Alvin Stiehler, sergeants-at-arms. This is the first term as an officer for six of the 11 in keeping with the club policy of encouraging participation in club affairs by as many members as possible.

GARDEN STATE COIN CLUB

The Garden State Coin club held its annual Christmas Party meeting and voted in Dave Miller as a life time member of the club as a show of appreciation for his services as club auctioneer.

The party consisted of barbecued chicken with all the trimmings for members and guest. The club paid one half the cost of the



CLUB FUN — Sussex County Coin Club's first Christmas party was a success. In top photo James Brandt, president of GSNA installs the 1982 officers. They are (from left) William H. Horton, Jr., president; vice president, Paul Pfeil, Sr., Mildred LaBar, secretary and Robert Sanford, treasurer. Club's Perfect Attendance Award (below) went to Mildred LaBar. Horton gave her a beautiful plate carrying the image of a Morgan Silver Dollar.



catered meal for everyone who ate. We also had bourse tables, auction, and many door prizes.

Sixty-five persons attended.

HUNTERDON COIN CLUB

A sluggish market was the leading cause for a small turnout of dealers and collectors at the 18th Annual Coin Show and Exhibit.

According to Howard Coss, Show Chairman and club Treasurer, 16 dealers signed up for the bourse area and less than 100 collectors and curiosity seekers stopped in at the usual show site in Flemington, New Jersey. Club Secretary Joe Lowande doubled as Exhibits Chairman, a chore he tackled each summer at the GSNA show.

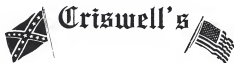
A new addition to the Hunterdon Coin Club's yearly show was a table manned by Howard Coss for free coin appraisal and grading. Even though both U.S. and foreign pieces were welcomed only 4 or 5 people stopped by the table.

Well, we all hope for a stronger market in 1982, especially since our 19th Annual Coin Show and Exhibit will be held at the usual place, the Hunterdon County Agricultural Center, Highway 31, Flemington, New Jersey, on November 14, 1982. Show Chairman once again is Howard Coss, RD #1, Lebanon, NJ 08833.

The club elected the following officers for 1982: George Banghart, President; Paul Ullrich, Vice President; Howard Coss, Treasurer; George Skic, Secretary.

The Hunterdon Coin Club meets the third Tuesday of each month at the Moose Hall, Barley Sheaf Rd., Flemington, N.J.

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MYSTIC COIN POWERS

By R. Winston Harris

Afraid of witches and werewolves? Take your most prized silver coin and bend it. Then, drill a hole through it, and wear it on a chain around your neck or ankle. There, you can relax knowing you are perfectly safe...protected from witches, vampires and werewolves.

So goes just one myth about talisman coins and their power to repel evil. The bend in the coin will reject witch spells. Its silver content will ward off werewolves and vampires.

Belief in the mystic powers of

coins is widespread. Some superstitions have been spawned from the ordinary practices of popular religions. Others are rooted in the black art's or occult religion, witchcraft. Still more can be traced to the superstitions of 14th century European Gypsies.

One of the most common beliefs about coins concerns their "wishing power." Many people toss coins into wishing wells or public fountains in the hope that the act will bring them health or wealth. This custom probably started at healing wells, shrines or springs where the desire for good health was the pre-occupation of

the "well-wisher." The donation of one's coins was an easy way to leave a memento of oneself at the healing site.

Variations of this custom include dropping a coin in a well in the hope that the coin will guarantee one's return to that spot at a future time. But, regardless the precise origin of this custom, we all know wishing wells do bring money to their owners.

Numbers on coins sometimes are thought to have special powers too. The number "3" is believed to be particularly potent. Christians generally recognize "3" as representing the Holy Trinity, Three Persons in one God. Witches and sorcerers have attached similar significance to this number. In the 19th Century, they often used silver British 3-pence coins and U.S. 3-cent silver coins in their rituals. That's one reason so many of these coins are found in bent condition today. Some collectors even refer to bent coins as "witch pieces".

One witch ritual supposed to bring you money is:

"Take five pennies (four old, one new) into the woods at night and bury them beneath an evergreen tree."

Got a few tired old 19th century cents and a 20th century penny you no longer need? Perhaps it's time to give them a wooded resting place. Just be sure you pick a spot today's treasure hunters are not likely to check out with their mental detectors.

Coins also are placed in wedding and birthday cakes in the superstition that the person getting a slice with a coin in it will gain wealth. (A broken tooth may be more likely though.)

Finding coins is assumed to bring good luck. And, in furtherance of that belief, putting the found coin in your shoe is assumed to multiply your future good fortune too.

I've heard that finding pennies can bring "bad luck." I suppose that depends on the dates and mints on the coins. Finding a 1914D Lincoln cent or 1925 Canadian small cent cannot be called



List of regular members who have joined since publication of the third quarter of NJNJ, 1981.

REGULAR MEMBERS:

R-636 Walter Moore, Jr.
R-637 George Webb, Jr.
R-638 Milton Dinkin
R-639 Harry Stewart
R-640 Bryan Abelowitz
R-641 Frederick Serafino
R-642 Scott D. Barnes
R-643 Thomas Carlin
J-644 Nancy Black
R-645 Eugene J. Schmid
R-646 Charles Harvath
R-647 Alberto Gon
R-648 Irving R. Canter
R-649 John Simak
R-650 Cosimo F. Del Rosso
R-651 Dwight H. Stuokey
R-652 George Banghart
R-653 Dennis J. Hart
R-654 David C. Wetzel
R-655 Ira Meltzer
R-656 Prudence Ann Pfeil
J-657 Paul Jason Pfeil
R-658 Robert Casburi
R-659 Joseph G. Hylas
R-660 Harold P. Werth
J-661 Mark Calazzo
J-662 Jackie McCreery
R-663 W.A. Selfridge

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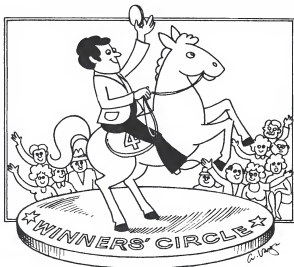
LM-240 D.A. Runfeldt
Lincoln Park, NJ
LM-241 William Wetzler
Carlstadt, NJ
LM-242 Bertram M. Cohen
Leominster, MA
LM-243 Anthony Swiatek
Kew Gardens, NY
LM-244 John Hendrickson
N. Hollywood, CA

Change of Address of Life Member

LM-23 Robert C. Mitchell
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MEDAL CONTEST WINNER

Nancy Black, a Young Numismatist from Brick Township, submitted the winning design for your Garden State Numismatic Association's 1982 convention medal.

Her entry was picked by a panel of judges. Nine designs were considered.

Miss Black, daughter of Archie Black, former GSNA president,

holds GSNA membership number J-644.

Only 125 medals are being struck. They will be sold for \$3.50 at the convention, and for \$5 by mail until the supply runs out.

It's a cloisonné, multi-colored uniface medal, done in red, green, brown, white and black.

It was designed to meet the convention theme, Today's Youth - Tomorrow's Leaders.

Mystic Coin Powers

Continued from page 16

"bad luck" in my view.

Want to contact George Washington or King George V for a historical review? Place coins with their images in the center of your dining room seance table. One myth promises that one of the Georges will join your gathering.

Dairy farmers can speed their butter-making processes too. If you've some milk that is difficult to churn, just toss a silver coin into it and the problem is solved. (No guarantee about the purity of the

butter churned of course.)

To learn more about coin usage for the occult, I asked the only avowed witch I've met about these practices. She's a young attractive lady, who always wears black, and her office is filled with wax dolls and unusual herbs. My witch friend told me of a ritual for unfaithful persons who want to hide their improper activities from their spouses.

The unfaithful person should place in wine two coins used to

close a dead person's eyes. Supposedly when the wronged spouse drinks it, he or she will be unable to observe their mate's improper conduct. If it doesn't work, watch out! The adulterer may wish he had a battle with a mere vampire rather than the enlightened spouse.

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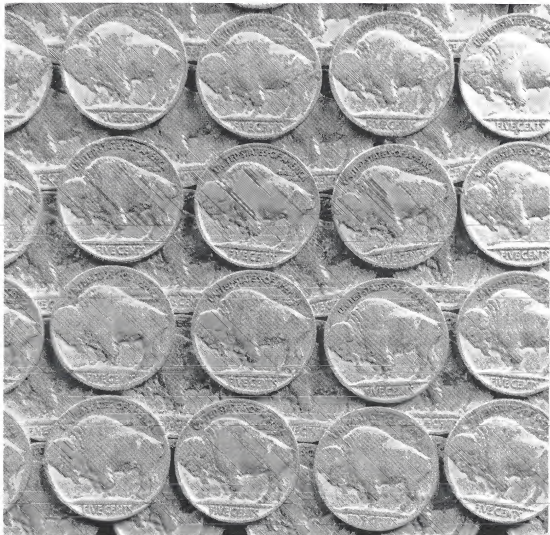


PHOTO CONTEST WINNER — The second annual GSNA Photo Contest drew 11 competitors, a 10% increase over 1980. There were a total of 48 photographs on display. "Best of Show" was taken by Doug Tilghman of New Egypt, N.J., with his shot of buffalo nickels. Doug also took second place in the Black & White Division. Other winners in Black and White were: Lester M. Burzinski, Madison, Wis., first place, and Stever Bergman, Brooklyn, N.Y., third place. Color Division: Steve Ritter, Linthsum Hgts., Md., first place, Frank Aden, Jr., Portland, Ore. second place, Ray J. Hartman, Philadelphia, Pa. third place.



GSNA

THIRD ANNUAL PHOTO CONTEST

to be held at
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June 24, 1982

Subjects should be numismatically oriented, e.g., pictures of coins, paper money, candid at a coin show or people and coins.

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There is no entry fee, and you may enter as many prints as you wish. You do have to be a member of the GSNA to enter. Print sizes may be as small as 3½ x 3½ and no larger than 8 x 10. Color or black and white - sorry, no slides.

Entrant's name, address and phone number must appear on the back of each print submitted.

DEADLINE IS JUNE 12, 1982 - NO EXCEPTIONS!!!!

All prints will be on display at the 7th Annual GSNA convention, June 24, through the 27th, at the Hyatt House, Route 70, Cherry Hill, New Jersey and will be published in the New Jersey Numismatic Journal.

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**So let's get our imagination into gear, and our camera into focus and start shooting
so we can make the June 12 deadline.**

**Best of luck to all,
JOE CLAY, Photo Contest Chairman**

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Hazlet Coin Club - #002
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Ocean County Coin Club - #004
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Monmouth County Coin Club, Inc.-#005
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Port Monmouth, N.J. 07758
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Israel Numismatic Society of N.J.-#007
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West Orange, N.J. 07052
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**Israel Numismatic Society
of Central Jersey - #008**
P.O. Box 215
New Brunswick, N.J. 08903
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YMHA
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Highland Park, N.J.

Trenton Numismatic Club, Inc. - #012
P.O. Box 93 - Trenton, N.J. 08601
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Rt. 130 and Rt. 156
Yardville, N.J.

Wekearny Stamp & Coin Club - #013
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Kearny, N.J. 07032
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Dorchester Hall Clubhouse
Lakewood, N.J.

South Jersey Coin Club - #016
311 South 4th Street
Millville, N.J. 08332
Meets 2nd Tuesday 8 p.m. (Sept.-June)
Wheaton Plaza Branch - Heritage Bank
Millville, N.J. 08332

The Newark Museum - #017
49 Washington St.
Newark, N.J. 07101
(Research Projects)

Hunterdon Coin Club - #018
P.O. Box 472
Flemington, N.J. 08822
Meets 3rd Tuesday
Moose Hall
Barley Sheaf Rd.
Flemington, N.J.

Plainfield Area Coin Club - #019
P.O. Box 66
Dunellen, N.J. 08812
Meets 4th Monday 8 p.m.
Rescue Squad, Main St.
Dunellen, N.J.

Fairlawn Coin Club - #020
P.O. Box 113
Hawthorne, N.J. 07506
Meets 1st & 3rd Weds., 8 p.m.
(Except July & August)
High School Cafeteria
Berdan Ave., Fairlawn, N.J.

**Currency Club of Chester
County, Pa. - #021**
633 North Church St.
West Chester, Pa. 19380
Meets 3rd Thursday, 8 p.m.
No meetings, July & Aug.
Commonwealth Federal Savings
High & Market St.
West Chester, Pa.

**Passaic County Numismatic Club, Inc.
#022**
P.O. Box 291
Clifton, N.J. 07011
Meets 1st Wednesday
Johnny's Banquet Hall
110 Ackerman Ave.
Clifton, N.J.

Kent Coin Club - #024
P.O. Box 857
Dover, Delaware 19901
Meets 2nd Thurs, 7:30 p.m.
at WSFS Building
5 East Reed Street
Dover, De.

**Israel Numismatic Society of
South Jersey - #026**
P.O. Box 3258
Cherry Hill, N.J. 08034
Meets 1st Wednesday 8 p.m.
Temple Beth Shalom
Whitehorse Pike & Green St.
Haddon Heights, N.J.

Garden State Coin Club - #027
454 River Drive
Westville, N.J. 08093
Meets 1st Saturday 8 p.m.
St. Anne's Church Annex
Westville, N.J.

Atlantic County Coin Club - #028
P.O. Box 2020
Ventnor, N.J. 08406
Meets 4th Sunday 2 p.m. (Sept.-May)
Ventnor Recreational Building
Atlantic Ave. & Newport

Garfield Coin Club - #031
P.O. Box 113
Hawthorne, N.J. 07506

Hackettstown Coin Club - #032
13 Marjorie Dr. RD 1
Hackettstown, N.J. 07840
Meets 4th Wednesday
American Legion Hall
Willow Grove Road
Hackettstown, N.J.

Morristown Coin Club - #033
P.O. Box 2322R
Morristown, N.J. 07960
Meets 1st Tuesday (except July
VFW Hall, Route #53
Morris Plains, N.J.

Northern Valley Coin Club - #034
P.O. Box 141
Demarest, N.J. 07627
Meets 4th Tuesdays 8 p.m. (Sept.-June)
Demarest Methodist Church
109 Hardenburg Ave.
Demarest, N.J.

B E R C L U B S

Somerset Coin Club - #035

1465 Easton Avenue
Somerset, N.J. 08873
Meets 2nd Monday
Members Homes

Forks of The Delaware Coin Club-#036

110 Henderson Street
Phillipsburg, N.J. 08865
Meets 1st Monday 7:30 p.m.
City Federal Savings & Loan
Roseberry Street Branch
Phillipsburg, N.J.

Bergen County Coin Club, Inc - #037

P.O. Box 126
North Hackensack Station
River Edge, N.J. 07661
Meets 3rd Wednesday 8 p.m.
(except July-August)
Congregational Church, Summit &
Valley Aves., Hackensack, N.J.

Essex County Coin Club - #039

38 Princeton St.
Maplewood, N.J. 07040
Meets 2nd Tuesday
Prospect Presbyterian Church
Corner of Prospect St. & Tuscan Rd.
Maplewood, N.J.

New Egypt Coin Club - #040

P.O. Box 64
New Egypt, N.J. 08533
Meets 2nd & 4th Thursday 7:30 p.m.
Plumsted Recreation Building
Brindletown Road
New Egypt, N.J.

AT&T Long Lines Pioneer Coin Club

- #041
c/o Herb Aston
AT&T Long Lines Rm. 4A220
Bedminster, N.J. 07921
Meets 2nd Wednesday 12:15 p.m.
Pioneers Lounge

Camden County Coin Club - #043

3 Saxony Dr.
Cinnaminson, N.J. 08077
Meets 4th Monday 8 p.m.
Naus Hall
Temple Lutheran Church
Route 130 & Merchantville Ave.
(Irving Ave.)
Pennsauken, N.J.

LERA Coin Club - #045

P.O. Box 787
Pearl River, N.Y. 10965
Meets 2nd Wed. (Except July &
August) 8 p.m.
LERA Clubhouse
North Middletown Rd.
Pearl River, N.Y.

Sussex County Coin Club - #046

RD 6 Box 495
Newton, N.J. 07860
Meets 2nd Monday 8:00 p.m.
Sussex County Ext. Service Bldg.
Saint Paul's Abbey
Route #206
Andover, N.J.

New Jersey Numismatic Society - #049

P.O. Box 211
Ironia, N.J. 07845
Meets 3rd Monday 7:30 p.m.
Madison Public Library
39 Keep St.
Madison, N.J.

PAK Jefferson Nickel Club - #050

P.O. Box 1205
Montclair, N.J. 07042

Rockland Coin Club - #052

P.O. Box 411
Spring Valley, N.Y. 10977
Meets 4th Monday each month
(except July and August)
Pomona Health Complex, Rt. 45
Pomona, New York

New Jersey Exonomia Society - #053

18 Riverside Drive So.
Bricktown, N.J. 08723

Weacon Coin Club - #054

c/o Western Electric Co.
John Datz
Dept. 122750, 9th Floor
Gateway 11

Crestwood Coin & Stamp Club - #055

Box 154
Whiting, N.J. 08759

A Collector's Favorite Coin

As a collector of coins from U.S. half cents to gold dollars, wooden nickels the medals, foreign coins, and paper money, there is one coin that is my favorite that I have not acquired yet. That coin is the Saint-Gaudens \$20 gold piece. I have studied the piece by reading the Red Book, admired the piece by seeing it in a dealer's case, and examined it when a dealer allowed me to hold it.

This American gold piece makes a perfect gift for collectors who collect ancient Greek coins, admire Greek sculptures, or who is immensely interested in Greek mythology.

The reason why I had mentioned Greek mythology is because I had recently discovered that Greek mythology and numismatics do mix. How I discovered that fact is when I had accompanied my mythology class to the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and I saw a sculpture of the goddess Diana, done by Augustus Saint-Gaudens. My first thought was that I felt that President Theodore Roosevelt made a good choice when he chose Saint-Gaudens to design the coin. Roosevelt liked Greek coins and he wanted this coin to resemble the ancient Greek

Continued on page 26



NEWLY ELECTED officers of the New Egypt Coin Club, L to R - Garry Sprung, President; Douglas Tilghman, vice president; Carol Loggie, secretary and Frank Chandler, treasurer.

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FAVORITE COIN

Continued from page 25

coins, which it did.

The design of the obverse of the coin shows a Greek goddess in classical Greek clothing, a branch and a torch. The Greeks and Romans used to honor their gods on coins. The torch is used in the Olympic Games which started in Greece. When the coins were first struck, the date, 1907, was done in Roman numerals which was common on Roman coins. The Capitol building which is in the background of the coin is an example of Greek architecture. On the reverse side of the coin is an eagle which is the symbol of Zeus.

With all this in mind I think it is a beautiful coin and just looking at it makes me feel like I have traveled back in time

— KARI BROWER

GSNA FUTURE SHOWS

June 24-27, 1982 - 7th ANNUAL CONVENTION - Hyatt Cherry Hill, Rte. 70, Cherry Hill, N.J.

June 23-26, 1983, 8th ANNUAL CONVENTION - Hyatt Cherry Hill, Rte. 70, Cherry Hill, N.J.

June 21-24, 1984 - 9th ANNUAL CONVENTION - Hyatt Cherry Hill, Rte. 70, Cherry Hill, N.J.

June 20-23, 1985 - 10th ANNUAL CONVENTION - Hyatt Cherry Hill, Rte. 70, Cherry Hill, N.J.

CLUB CALENDAR

In an attempt to coordinate show dates for the Coin Clubs in New Jersey, GSNA will publish, in each issue of the NJNJ the dates of any coin club show. It is hoped that by providing this information, clubs will be better able to plan their show and avoid conflicts with other club shows that have already chosen a date. We urge all clubs, whether GSNA members or not, to cooperate in this long overdue attempt to eliminate bucking each other competing for the same interested persons to attend 3 or 4 shows scheduled on the same day. Only your help and cooperation will resolve this annual problem which sometimes causes bad feelings among some of the clubs.

MARCH 13 — BERGEN COUNTY COIN CLUB, 22nd ANNUAL SHOW, Bergen Mall Auditorium (lower level), Route 4, Paramus, N.J.

MARCH 21 — SUSSEX COUNTY COIN CLUB, AUCTION '82, 10 a.m., Sparta VFW Post 7248, 66 Main St., Sparta, N.J. more than 300 lots.

MARCH 25 — 28 — 26th ANNUAL METROPOLITAN NEW YORK NUMISMATIC CONVENTION, Vista International Hotel, World Trade Center, New York, NY

MARCH 28 — FAIRLAWN COIN CLUB, 12th ANNUAL SHOW, at the Fairlawn A.C., Parmela Avenue and Fairlawn Avenue, Fairlawn, NJ

SEPT. 12 — OCEAN COUNTY COIN CLUB, Beacon Manor Hotel, Point Pleasant Beach, NJ

SEPT 26 — MONMOUTH COUNTY COIN CLUB, ANNUAL SHOW, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m., Veterans of Foreign Wars, Route 36, Port Monmouth, NJ

SEPT. 26 — NEW EGYPT COIN CLUB, 5th ANNUAL SHOW, American Legion Post, Meadowbrook Lane, New Egypt.

SEPT. 30 - OCT. 3 — GREAT EASTERN NUMISMATIC CONVENTION, Statler Hotel, 7th Avenue and 33rd Street, New York, NY

NOV. 14 — HUNTERDON COIN CLUB, 19th ANNUAL SHOW, Hunterdon County Agricultural Center, Route 31, Flemington, NJ

SHEETS GOING FAST

On Dec. 22, 1981, the Bureau of Engraving and Printing began the sale of 32-note sheets of uncut currency issued on the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond.

About 32,000 32-note sheets issued on the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston were sold between Oct. 26, when the sale of uncut currency sheets began, and Dec. 22, 1981.

The quantity of sheets sold with the Richmond designation will be approximately 36,000. The serial numbering system will be the same one used for the Boston sheets.

The 16-note sheets will continue to be issued on the Federal Reserve Bank of New York until further notice.

See you in JUNE



at the Garden State
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Robert W. Hoge New Curator of Numismatic Museum

Robert Hoge, a student of many pre-modern coinages and a collector of miscellaneous United States and world numismatic items, has been appointed museum curator at the Colorado Springs headquarters of the American Numismatic Association, announces ANA executive vice president Edward C. Rochette.

Educated in Boulder, Colorado, and a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of the University of Colorado, Hoge majored in anthropology with continued graduate studies at the University of Chicago and the University of Colorado in the fields of anthropology, history, geography and education. He received secondary teaching certificates from Colorado and Iowa.

Hoge's interest in historic coins of the world has not been limited solely as a collector, but he has used his personal collections as part of his teaching efforts where numismatics have proven to be a valuable teaching tool.

In addition to his knowledge on numismatics, Hoge is a linguist having studied French, Spanish, Latin and Chinese (with some background in Arabic, German, Italian and Greek). His knowledge of such languages stands him in good stead as he proceeds daily in cataloguing the thousands of numismatic items and preparing the displays in the ANA museum.

He has been certified as an official judge at ANA convention in the field of world coinage. Hoge was appointed chief Judge by ANA president Adna G. Wilde, Jr. for the 1982 convention.

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